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Education tax levied by municipal councils and local boards.

*6 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state--

(*a*) the municipal councils and local boards in the Province which are levying the education tax and the maximum and the minimum rates of such tax;

(*b*) the receipts from the education tax of municipalities and local boards in and after 1941 (yearwar);

(*c*) the amount of Government grants towards elementary education in and after 1941 (yearwar);

(*d*) the number of elementary schools maintained by the municipal councils and the local boards in 1941 and thereafter (yearwar) and the strength in those schools (yearwar);

(*e*) the percentage of boys and girls of school-age who did not attend any school in municipalities and local boards (yearwar); and

(*f*) the number of villages in the Province in which compulsory primary education has been introduced?

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (*a*) All district boards levy education tax, the maximum and minimum rates being 37 pies and 10 pies in the rupee of land revenue.

Most of the municipal councils levy education tax, the maximum and minimum rates being 50 per cent and 4·04 per cent of property tax respectively.

" (*b*) *to* (*e*) The figures are not readily available.

" (*f*) The Hon. the Member is referred to the table appended to the report on Public Instruction which gives particulars regarding areas wherein compulsory elementary education was introduced before 1945. During the years 1945–46, 1946–47, 1947–48 the Government have sanctioned the introduction of the scheme of compulsory elementary education in selected villages in each district. The total number of villages is 1816."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I request the Hon. Minister, Sir, to obtain those figures which are not now readily available, because I am sure, they will be available if the Government make some effort to collect them and furnish them to the members at their own convenience? "

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, I can readily give the figures for district boards for the last year, but to get ten years' figures from 1941, is, I submit, a matter which would involve considerable time and trouble, but if the hon. Member insists, I shall try to get them, Sir. However, Sir, I may submit that the game is not worth the candle."

Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government are giving any contribution to municipalities and local bodies for education? "

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The Government are making very heavy contributions to these local bodies in respect of education. For instance, the education tax collected by the local boards last year was only Rs. 116·8 lakhs, whereas the subsidy given by the Government was Rs. 246.26 lakhs."

The Ramachandraraopet Municipal Public Park.

* 7 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any complaints from the public and others of Eluru regarding the closure of the Ramachandraraopet Municipal Public Park between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily for some months past; and

(*b*) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The Government after perusing the connected records informed the complainant that the Commissioner, Eluru Municipality, had taken action on the complaints made to him and that no interference on the part of Government was called for."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, what action has been taken in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" The gardener who plucked the flowers has been punished."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" What was the punishment given to him, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" He was punished with some fine, Sir."

SRI M. NARAYANA RAO :—" Is there any qualifications prescribed for these gardeners, Sir, or is any training prescribed for them? "

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI :—" There is no special qualification prescribed for these gardeners. I may inform the hon. Member, that it is true that the doors were closed. but they were done so, just to prevent this sort of game."

Prohibition Staff College.

* 8 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a Prohibition Staff College has been established;

(*b*) what the staff employed is and what the courses of studies prescribed for the various grades of officers are;